

## IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS:

**Supervision of Children:** Please supervise your child at all time. For the safety and comfort of children, if you need to leave the room during class time for any reason, be sure to take your child with you.

**Makeup Policy:** We recommend you schedule makeups early in the semester as classes are limited to 12 families to create a safe, consistent community for children and adults to explore and experiment with music - waiting till the end of the semester may result in not being able to schedule your makeup. Makeups need to be scheduled within semester enrolled - no rollovers. Makeups are the responsibility of parents. Refunds/credits will not be given for missed classes. Go to [www.musictogetherCTclass.com](http://www.musictogetherCTclass.com) and under the Enrolled Families Bar click Makeup Scheduler - Enter access code salsa (lower case letters)

**Refund Policy:** No Refunds/Credits will be given after the semester has started. A \$50.00 cancellation fee may be applied.

**Cell Phones/** Please refrain from using cell phones in class. Please respect our no pictures or video zone. Set phones to vibrate or manner mode.

**Cameras:** As our program emphasizes adult /child interaction, your child expects and deserves your full undivided attention in class. At this time we prefer to keep our classrooms a No Camera Zone. Please speak with your teacher if you have further questions.

**Cancellations:** For inclement weather check our website at [www.musictogetherCTclass.com](http://www.musictogetherCTclass.com) or call the office at (203) 521-3013, a message will indicate if classes are cancelled. In the case of teacher illness, all families will be contacted by phone. If there is a cancellation for one of the above reasons, the semester will be extended. Please Note: We do not always follow school cancellations/delays.

**Holidays:** If you have an older sibling that needs to attend due to a holiday school closing, please notify your teacher/office. Siblings may attend two times within the semester free of charge, **space pending**.

**Illness:** We strive to keep a clean and healthy environment, **if you or your child is coughing excessively, has thick yellow or green runny nose or has had a fever within 24 hours please stay home**. Also consider if you have an ill sibling who with a bug or fever how that may transfer to your child.

**Food / Drink:** Please refrain from bringing food and drink in our classrooms. Some children have allergies. If your child is in need of a "thirst quencher", take a break outside of classroom as sippy cups can be a distraction.

**Allergies /** Please let us know if there is anything you feel we should know about your child  
**Special Needs:** so you both may have the best experience possible.

**Guests:** Adult family members are welcome at any time. If you wish to bring a guest with a child, call our office at least 48 hours in advance. Inform you guest that Music Together is a participatory experience that emphasizes adults modeling music making regardless of their musical experience. Please ask them to refrain from talking as we are modeling the use of the singing voice not speaking voice and immersing our children in 45 minutes of music.

## Tips on Making the Most of your Music Together Experience:

1. **Be Prompt.** The "Hello" song is an important ritual for children. It helps them ease into the community. Wait for the "Goodbye" song to finish before collecting your things.
2. **Please leave toys or lovey's in the car or at home.** They can be a distraction for other children and your child may not be prepared to share. If you are having struggles with this, speak with your teacher for options.
3. **Leave your expectations at the door !** Music Together is a non-performance program. We are focusing on the process and the live music making experience. Please do not compare your child with others. Children have different learning styles - active participators, the wise observer or the kinetic mover. If your child does not seem "engaged" in class, watch how much they have absorbed by what they do at home! Each semester your child and you will respond differently!
4. **Music making is fun - sing, dance and be merry!** During these delicate, development years, many social, independence and gross motor skills are being tried on. Please be patient with your child as they learn to socialize, share and gain control of emotions. As we do not wish to impose on any families' parenting style, it is important to remember our actions have a tremendous impact on our children. By creating a community of adults modeling positive behavior, our children will follow suit. There are really "no rules" for the children except to keep them safe. Your teacher will cue you if he/she feels a behavior needs some modification or attention. In a challenging situation, please feel free to leave the room for a moment, however, always come back!
5. **What is your role in a Music Together Class?** Please take the time to view the Parent Education DVD and Introduction in the beginning of your Songbook. The materials are written so that you may have a deeper understanding of the Music Together Program. Despite your own musicality, sing, dance and be playful with your child.
6. **Prepare to be musical.** Please refrain from chatting with your neighbor in class. If we model talking in music class what message does that send to children. Also, because children are so sensitive to pitches, the undertones of talking can make it more difficult for them to focus on the music. Before learning language, children learned by watching and imitating! Find ways to have non-verbal communication.
7. **Bring your questions and concerns to the attention of the Teacher or Director.** We are happy to share our experiences with you and to help you work through any challenges.
8. **The CD and Songbook are tools to enrich musical growth at home.** Share them with other family members and remember to use them in both the car and inside the home. This will help support a connection with the classroom experience. (To be handed out the first day of class). Create an account for entry into the Family Music Zone for access to more activities and fun videos, educational information and more!
9. **If you are attending with an infant sibling feel free to bring in a wrap or baby bjorn.** If your infant is in a car seat, include him/her as a part of the community by removing him/her on occasion. Your infant's experience is just as important as older siblings.
10. **Having the oldest or youngest child in the class has its individual benefits.** Speak with your teacher about the importance of these two levels. We are a program that supports children processing information at their own developmental pace - not performance oriented!
11. **If you have an infant in the class music making will be different.** Speak with your teacher on specific ways to engage your infant. Bring a blanket, have your infant face you instead of facing outward. Infants love to focus on our faces, be bounced and massaged to music.

**Music Together of Monroe/Newtown LLC**  
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**Julie Capuano, Director**